IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 5-7 with the following replacement paragraph:

This application claims ~~priority to~~ the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 60/452,994, filed Mar. 7, 2003, the entire disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference.

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 7-11 with the following replacement paragraph:

In any of the above described embodiments, the first axis of rotation and the second axis of rotation may be perpendicular, the third axis of rotation and the second axis of rotation may be parallel, when the towing arm is in the retracted position the principal dimension of the grip portion and the length of the intermediate arm may be arranged generally parallel to each other, or the towing arm may be arranged perpendicular to the grip portion.

Please replace paragraph on page 13, line 22 to page 14, line 11 with the following replacement paragraphs:

As shown in FIGS. 1 through 5, the towing arm (103) of the towing member (100) preferably comprises a dual-pole telescoping member. In a dual-pole towing arm (103) there are two poles (131) and (133) joined by a bridge (135) at their distal ~~ends (136)~~ ends. This bridge (135) will generally be relatively parallel to the top face (111) of the luggage (101) as shown in the FIGS. In a particular embodiment, the bridge (135) will be generally parallel to the line of ~~intersection (119)~~ intersection of the top face (111) and back face (113) of the

piece of luggage (101) and also generally parallel to the wheel rotation axis (191). In an alternative embodiment, the dual pole towing arm (103) may be replaced by a monopole towing arm. In that case, there is no bridge (135). However, the top of the monopole towing arm will generally include a top surface which may have a pin attached to the top thereof to serve as the third axis (155) as discussed in more detail later in the disclosure or other rotational mount mounted to the end thereof. Generally, the angle of this pin will also be parallel to the rotational axis (191) of the wheels (119).

Please replace paragraph on page 14, line 12 to page 15, line 4 with the following replacement paragraph:

In the dual-pole towing arm (103) embodiment pictured, each pole (131) and (133) includes a proximal end (not shown) that is slidably engaged with the piece of luggage (101) and an opposite distal ~~end (136)~~ end that can be retracted toward and extended away from the piece of luggage (101). The proximal and distal ~~end (136)~~ end are separated by a length. Each pole (131) and (133) is preferably formed of aluminum, steel, or other suitably strong materials and they connect to the luggage (101) in a telescoping fashion. Each pole (131) and (133) may either telescope as a single part, or include multiple subparts which also telescope relative to each other. The poles (131) and (133) of the towing arm (103) preferably extend side-by-side along the length of the towing arm (103) and are preferably rigidly connected to each other by bridge (135) at the distal ~~ends (136)~~ ends thereof. The length of the poles (131) and (133) may be straight or curved along their length and may have any cross sectional shape. One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the dual-pole and bridge (135) arrangement of towing arm (103) is essentially similar to known prior art devices, however in the depicted embodiment, the bridge (135) has been modified to allow for the third axis (155) of rotation as discussed below. In an alternative

embodiment, the user could grasp the bridge (135) and use that as a handle to tow the luggage (101).

Please replace the paragraph on page 16, lines 1-10 with the following replacement paragraph:

A bearing surface (140) is formed at the end of the stem portion (138). As shown in FIG. 9, the towing handle (105) also includes a handle pivot shaft (142) that is preferably formed of metal and is centered in and protrudes perpendicularly from the stem portion (138) bearing surface (140). A first end (146) of the handle pivot shaft (142) extends into the handle grip portion (134) and forms a hollow paddle (851) while the second end (950) extends from the bearing surface and into the knuckle (301). The stem portion (138) of the towing handle (105) is preferably molded with a bore hole (173) in which is placed the handle pivot shaft (142). The handle pivot shaft (142) provides for a first axis of rotation (151) where the handle (105) can rotate about the knuckle (301) by rotation of either or both the knuckle (301) and towing ~~handle (101)~~ handle (105) rotating about the handle pivot shaft (142).

Please replace the paragraph on page 16, line 20 to page 16, line 13 with the following replacement paragraph:

Alternatively or additionally, the button (143) may trigger other locking structures such as the towing handle (105), knuckle (301) or intermediate arm (401). Looking at FIGS. 9 through 12, when the handle pivot shaft (142) is raised, the bottom portion of it clears hole (857) in the upper ~~portion (405)~~ portion 145 of intermediate arm (401). However, the handle pivot shaft (142) is preferably hollow, and inside the hollow internal opening (861) extends secondary pivot shaft (859). The hollow internal opening (861) is preferably of

generally circular cross section as is the secondary pivot shaft (859). Therefore, the handle pivot shaft (142) can rotate about the secondary pivot shaft (859) placed in the hollow internal opening. Once the handle pivot shaft (142) is clear of the hole (857), it should be clear that rotation about the second axis (153) is unlocked. Thus the handle pivot shaft (142) can move between hole (857) and hole (867). Further, as handle pivot shaft (142) moves toward the hole (867), the flat side of the part circle depression (869) pushes the telescope release pin (865) toward the lower portion (147) of the intermediate arm (401). The trapezoid shaped pusher (871) on the end of the telescope release pin (865) then depresses the telescope pin (873) of each of the poles (131) and (133). This depression is transferred to the locking pins (875) in each of the poles (131) and (133) unlocking the telescoping motion of the poles (131) and (133) as well.

Please replace the paragraph on page 17, lines 13-21 with the following replacement paragraph:

Depression of the button (143) may therefore serve to move the handle pivot shaft (142) to disengage the locking mechanisms which serve to lock or unlock any or all of the available rotations about any or all of the available rotation axes and/or related to the extension of the towing arm (103). In the depicted embodiment, depression of the button (143) unlocks rotation about the first and second axes (151) and (153) and the arm telescoping motion. While this particular arrangement of locking and unlocking is used in the depicted embodiment, one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that other known locking mechanisms such as, but not limited to, those described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/238,390, the entire disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference, could be used in other embodiments.

Please replace the paragraph on page 17, line 22 to page 18, line 8 with the following replacement paragraph:

The bearing surface (140) of the towing handle (105) is in contact with a related bearing surface (303) located in the knuckle (301) so that the two bearing surfaces (140) and (303) rotate relative to each other around the first axis of ~~rotation (107)~~ rotation 151 when button (143) is depressed (unlocking the system). The knuckle (301) further comprises, towards the end opposite the bearing surface (303) and toothed ~~cog (851)~~ cog 855, a U-shaped flange (305), or other connector, with a hole (307) therethrough. The U-shaped flange (305) in turn extends over both sides and an upper ~~portion (405)~~ portion 145 of the intermediate arm (401). A rotation pin (340) is placed though holes (307) in the flange (305) and through a ~~hole (407)~~ hole 411 in the upper portion (405) of the intermediate arm (401) to allow the knuckle (301) to rotate about a second axis of rotation (153) relative to the intermediate arm (401).

Please replace the paragraph on page 18, line 20 to page 19, line 7 with the following replacement paragraph:

In an alternative embodiment, rotation about the first axis (151) can be eliminated and only rotation about the second axis (153) may be included. In a still further embodiment, rotation about one or both axes may be limited to float within a predetermined number of separate locking positions. For example, 5-25 degrees of motion in each direction may be available freely (or against a biasing force) in any locked position, with there being 2-6 different locked positions available to each axis of rotation. When unlocked, the rotation is free until the handle is placed in one of the locked positions and allowed to lock. In the depicted embodiment of ~~FIG. 13~~ FIG. 10, the holes (857) and (867) may have a slightly greater internal diameter than the external diameter of the handle pivot shaft (142) to provide such float. The cuts (881) in the toothed cog (855) may also

have a slightly greater width than the width of the hollow paddle (851) to produce a similar float.

Please replace the paragraph on page 20, lines 10-22 with the following replacement paragraph:

There are two pole shoulders (601) and (603) each of which is connected to the distal ~~end (136)~~ end 136 of one of the poles (131) and (133) and each of which is generally an approximately 90.degree. angle bend of material and has a bearing surface (126) with a channel (651) and lip (653) extending therefrom. Each of the pole shoulders (601) and (603) includes a bore hole (611) ~~or (613)~~ through the channel (651), lip (653) and bearing surface (126) and in each bore hole (611) ~~and (613)~~ there is placed a telescope pin (873) which extends from the bore hole (611) of the first shoulder (601), into the bore hole (421) in the lower portion of the intermediate arm (401) and from the bore hole ~~(613)~~ 611 of the second shoulder (603) into the bore hole (421). This arrangement allows intermediate arm (401) to rotationally move about the telescope pins (873) with the bearing surfaces (461) ~~and (463)~~ in contact with the bearing surfaces (126). In the depicted embodiment, the intermediate arm also rotates relative to the lip (653) and channel (651) having an extension which rides in the channel (651). This in turn holds the two pole shoulders (601) and (603) to the intermediate arm (401).

Please replace the paragraph on page 21, lines 5-16 with the following replacement paragraph:

When assembled, the ball bearing (675) is pushed by spring (673) into the bearing ~~surface (411) or (413)~~ surface 461. The bearing surfaces (461) ~~and (463)~~ each include two hemispherical indents (467). As can be seen, when the ball

bearing (675) lines with an indent (467), the spring (673) pushes the ball bearing (675) into the indent (467) which provides resilient detention of the intermediate arm (401) at that position. The resilient detention is released by simply providing sufficient angular force on the intermediate arm (401) to overcome the spring's (673) biasing force and push the ball bearing (675) back into the hole (671). The intermediate arm (401) can then freely move about the third axis (155) until another hemispherical indent (467) aligns with ball bearing (675). The telescope pins (873) are generally parallel to the rotation pin (340) which extends through the first bore hole (411) in the upper portion (145) of the intermediate arm (401) with bearing surfaces (465) ~~and (467)~~ in contact with the inside surfaces of the U-shaped flange (305).

Please replace the paragraph on page 22, lines 16-18 with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 8 shows the rotation of handle (105) about the first axis of rotation (151) with the handle (105) in one position and two ghost images ~~(501) and (503)~~ of the handle (105) also shown for reference.

Please replace the paragraph on page 27, line 4 to page 28, line2 with the following replacement paragraph:

When the user pushes the jump button (803), the handle (105) will jump slightly clearing the frame of the luggage and being generally in the position of FIG. 5. As should be apparent, if the user is facing in the direction they intend to pull the luggage, the principal dimension (171) of the grip portion (134) is generally parallel to the direction of motion as soon as the handle (105) jumps because it is generally perpendicular to the wheel rotation axis (191) and parallel to the top face (111). Therefore, the user can grasp the grip portion (134) with

their hand without having to twist their wrist to any significant degree toward or away from their body (although the line of grip may tilt up or down). Upon grasping the grip portion (134), the user can depress the button (143) to release the locking mechanism (if present). At this time the handle (105) rotation is preferably unlocked around all three axes (151), (153), and (155) (although any or all axes may still be resiliently detained as discussed in conjunction with the third axis (155)). The user can then pull out the handle (105) to telescope the arm portions (131) and (133). They may first telescope the towing arm (103) to the expanded position of FIGS. 2 through 4, and then tilt the luggage onto wheels (119) and to the position of FIG. 10, or simultaneously extend and tilt bypassing the arrangement of FIGS. 2 through 4 to go straight to the arrangement of FIG. 13. Regardless of which method is used, in the arrangement of FIG. 13, the user will then begin to move forward. Because of the first (151) and second axes (153) of rotation, the handle (105) can rotate relative to the bridge (135) so that the principle dimension (171) of the grip portion (134) ends up being approximately parallel to the user's motion in the preferred embodiment. Further, the grip portion (134) can be placed in the hand so that it is held by the hand in the position with the hand naturally at the side.